

## STATEMENT OF PETER J SCHAUMBERG

Before the Subcommittee on Energy and Resources  
Committee on Government Reform  
United States House of Representatives  
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My name is Peter J. Schaumberg. I am currently Of Counsel with the law firm of Beveridge & Diamond, P.C., in Washington, D.C. I received my undergraduate degree from Tulane University in 1972 and my Juris Doctor degree from the George Washington University National Law Center in 1975.

After law school I joined the Honors Program in the Office of Chief Counsel at the Internal Revenue Service. In 1977 I joined the General Counsel's Office of the Federal Energy Administration, which later became the Department of Energy. In 1981 I moved to the Office of the Solicitor, Department of the Interior, Division of Surface Mining. In 1982 I transferred to what was then the Division of Energy and Resources as the Special Assistant to the Associate Solicitor for Royalty Management. From 1982 to 1995, I provided legal representation almost exclusively to the Royalty Management Program of the Minerals Management Service (MMS), the last four years as Assistant Solicitor for Royalty Management. During that time I managed a staff of two to three attorneys and a secretary.

In approximately October 1995 the Office of the Solicitor reorganized and a new Division of Mineral Resources was created. As part of that reorganization the former Branches of Royalty Management and Offshore Minerals and International Law were consolidated into a single Branch of Royalty and Offshore Minerals under my supervision as Assistant Solicitor. At the same time I was named as the Acting Deputy Associate Solicitor for the new Division of Mineral Resources. Thus, in addition to my duties as Assistant Solicitor, I had management responsibility for a Division of approximately 25 attorneys and paralegals including the Branch of Onshore Minerals, which provided legal advice to the minerals programs of the Bureau of Land Management (BLM), and the Branch of Surface Mining, which provided legal advice to the Office of Surface Mining. As the Acting Deputy Associate Solicitor I also was responsible for the administrative management of the Division, including managing the budget, travel and personnel matters.

I was selected permanently for the position of Deputy Associate Solicitor for the Division of Mineral Resources in October/November 1997. At approximately the same time, then Solicitor Leshy asked if I was interested in changing my Assistant Solicitor responsibilities to the Branch of Onshore Minerals, a position that I accepted. Therefore, my first line supervisory responsibilities as Assistant Solicitor for Onshore Minerals focused on managing a Branch of approximately nine attorneys responsible for providing legal advice to the BLM on the full range of its onshore minerals program including oil and gas, coal, solid leasable minerals and hardrock mining under the Mining Law of 1872. As Deputy Associate Solicitor for the Division of Mineral Resources I continued to have supervisory responsibility over the Branches of Royalty and Offshore Minerals and Surface Mining, both managed by an Assistant Solicitor.

I retired from DOI on May 30, 2006 after almost 31 years of federal service.

This concludes my statement. I would be pleased to answer any questions from the members of the subcommittee.